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(b) The authorized officer shall not load wild horses or burros if he/she determines that the vehicle to be used for transporting the wild horses or burros is not satisfactory for that purpose.

Subpart 4750—Private Maintenance

§ 4750.1 Private maintenance.

The authorized officer shall make available for private maintenance all healthy excess wild horses or burros for which an adoption demand by qualified individuals exists.

§ 4750.2 Health, identification, and inspection requirements.

§ 4750.2-1 Health and identification requirements.

- (a) An individual determined to be qualified by the authorized officer shall verify each excess animal's soundness and good health, determine its age and sex, and administer immunizations, worming compounds, and tests for communicable diseases.
- (b) Documentation conforming compliance with State health inspection and immunization requirements for each wild horse or burro shall be provided to each adopter by the authorized officer.
- (c) Each animal offered for private maintenance, including orphan and unweaned foals, shall be individually identified by the authorized officer with a permanent freeze mark of alpha numeric symbols on the left side of its neck. The freeze mark identifies the animal as Federal property subject to the provisions of the Act and these regulations by a patented symbol, the animal's year of birth, and its individual identification number. The authorized officer shall record the freeze mark on the documentation of health and immunizations. For purposes of this subpart, a freeze mark applied by the authorized officer is not considered a brand.

§ 4750.2-2 Brand inspection.

The authorized officer shall make arrangements on behalf of an adopter for State inspection of brands, where applicable, of each animal to be transported across the State where the

adoption center is located. The adopter shall be responsible for obtaining inspections for brands required by other States to or through which the animal may be transported.

§ 4750.3 Application requirements for private maintenance.

§ 4750.3-1 Application for private maintenance of wild horses and burros.

An individual applying for a wild horse or burro shall file an application with the Bureau of Land Management on a form approved by the Director.

§ 4750.3-2 Qualification standards for private maintenance.

- (a) To qualify to receive a wild horse or burro for private maintenance, an individual shall:
- (1) Be 18 years of age or older;
- (2) Have no prior conviction for inhumane treatment of animals or for violation of the Act or these regulations;
- (3) Have adequate feed, water, and facilities to provide humane care to the number of animals requested. Facilities shall be in safe condition and of sufficient strength and design to contain the animals. The following standards apply:
- (i) A minimum space of 144 square feet shall be provided for each animal maintained, if exercised daily; otherwise, a minimum of 400 square feet shall be provided for each animal;
- (ii) Until fence broken, adult horses shall be maintained in an enclosure at least 6 feet high; burros in an enclosure at least 4½ feet high; and horses less than 18 months old in an enclosure at least 5 feet high. Materials shall be protrusion-free and shall not include large-mesh woven or barbed wire;
- (iii) Shelter shall be available to mitigate the effects of inclement weather and temperature extremes. The authorized officer may require that the shelter be a structure, which shall be well-drained and adequately ventilated;
- (iv) Feed and water shall be adequate to meet the nutritional requirements of the animals, based on their age, physiological condition and level of activity; and
- (4) Have obtained no more than 4 wild horses and burros within the preceding